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As a public service The Times presents on this page columnists whose opinions reflect those of our diverse readership.

LETTERS TO THE TIMES

Indonesian 'Aggression' Called Threat to U.S. Control in Pacific

Recently in your paper (Jan. 13) was an article which quoted Indonesia's military chief, Gen. Nasution, as saying that a fifth column of Indonesians is "infiltrating" in increasing numbers into New Guinea.

The article also said that "U.S. Ambassador Jones was to have presented a helicopter today to President Sukarno as a gift from President Kennedy. But Sukarno abruptly called off the ceremony at the last minute with the explanation that he was too busy. The helicopter has been parked on the presidential lawn here."

★

If your readers will look at a map of Indonesia, Australia, and the Southern Pacific, they will see that the entire island of New Guinea is far removed from the central and governing island of Java, but that New Guinea is half-controlled by Australia, and as a total island is almost touching distance to Australia.

The native tribes in Dutch New Guinea are totally unrelated to the Malay stock of people in Java and the central islands of Indonesia, and the vast majority of natives in New Guinea are even ignorant of Indonesia's existence.

If Sukarno is allowed to commit aggression here against the Dutch, Australia's flank will be seriously exposed to future aggression from Indonesia and/or Red China. The U.S. control of the Pacific Ocean, which is a must for the safety of our country, would be jeopardized.

the United States takes a firm stand with Sukarno on this matter vital to our security. In clear terms the United States should tell Sukarno that if he and his government persist in "aggression" against the Dutch as well as the tribes of New Guinea, the United States will cut off foreign aid to his country.

PAT BOWIE,
Rolling Hills

Freeway Signs

How many times have you been breezing down the freeway not knowing where to turn off for a certain numerical street number?

Were you confused? And, aren't confused drivers a danger?

Did you know that if you want the 12000 block on Riverside Dr. in North Hollywood that you take the Hollywood Freeway outbound to the Laurel Canyon Ave. turnoff? Or, to reach the 8300 block on S Vermont Ave. that you take the Harbor Freeway southbound to the Manchester Ave. turnoff?

Wouldn't it be a real public service to have the numerical street numbers listed on ALL the freeway turnoff signs?

JOEL H. EVANS,
North Hollywood.

Mrs. Wilson

This letter is in the nature of a protest against an omission which in my way of thinking is unpardonable. When Mrs. Woodrow Wilson died recently, nothing was mentioned over the air, and not a word in the papers.

came into the picture late in her husband's life, it is true, but she assumed her duties with dignity and restraint, never broadcast her opinions in the press or in magazines, and in his last illness she took care of him with devotion. After his death the nation rarely heard of her, as she maintained a life of seclusion owing to increasing years and failing health, but she was the wife of one of our greatest Presidents, and as such deserved much more notice than the newspapers gave her.

MILDRED S. MURDOCH,
Santa Barbara.

The Times published a column-long obituary of Mrs. Wilson, starting on Page 1, and a two-column picture of her.—Ed.

McCone Needed

I have been reading Drew Pearson's articles on John McCone.

According to Pearson, McCone should be black-listed because he is a smart, shrewd, successful business man whose brains and imagination helped America win the war, but who made some money in the process.

The CIA for a change needs to be headed by a smart, shrewd man. To date it has evidenced signs of stupidity. The very existence of our country is dependent on CIA functioning effectively and I'd rather have it operated by a man such as McCone than by one of the failures who inhabit too many departments in Washington.

WESLEY J. H. KENNEDY,
Los Angeles